

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 206877

JB
ORIGIN SCS-03

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USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 L-03 CIAE-00

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DRAFTED BY SCA:SCS:RAMCKENZIE/RSOMERVILLE/JFM
APPROVED BY SCA:SCS:AAGISE
M:WGALLOWAY (SUB)
M:WMURRAY (SUB)
NEA/EX:ECHAMPAGNE (SUB)
S/S - MR. REDDY

----- 056127

O 192305Z AUG 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC

SUBJECT: W/W REPATRIATION OF VIETNAM RETURNEES

REF: BANGKOK 23369.

1. IT IS UNDERSTOOD FROM GISE-ANTIPPAS PREVIOUS TELEPHONE CONVERSATION THAT EMBASSY HAS SECURED PROMISSORY NOTES FOR ALL INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED. IS THIS CORRECT? PLEASE CABLE ASAP THE PRECISE TIME PERIOD COVERED FOR EACH FAMILY IN PROMISSORY NOTE.

2. PLEASE CLARIFY AND IDENTIFY WHAT ITEMS ARE INCLUDED IN THE EXPENSES LABELED AS "TRAVEL EXPENSES" PER SECTION TWO OF REFTEL. (DOCUMENTATION TO ALLOW DEPARTURE CAN BE INCLUDED IN REPATRIATION COSTS).

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PAGE 02 STATE 206877

3. DEPARTMENT ESTIMATE OF HOTEL EXPENSES FROM REFTEL TOTAL DOLLARS 1,078.38 FOR THE THREE-DAY DEBRIEFING PERIOD. THIS FIGURE BASED UPON HOTEL EXPENSES STATED REFTEL DIVIDED BY NUMBER DAYS EACH INDIVIDUAL STAYED IN BANGKOK. EMBASSY TOTAL STATES FIGURE DOLLARS 1200.00. ARE ITEMS OTHER THAN HOTEL EXPENSES (FOOD AND LODGING) BEING INCLUDED IN DOLLARS 1200? IF SO, PLEASE SPECIFY EACH ITEM.

4. WERE ANY INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATING IN DEBRIEFING GIVEN

REASON TO EXPECT THAT U.S. GOVERNMENT WOULD ASSUME THEIR MAINTENANCE COSTS DURING DEBRIEFING PERIOD OF THREE DAYS OR ANY PERIOD THEREAFTER? IF SO, WHICH WERE SO INFORMED?

5. WHILE WE ARE SYMPATHETIC WITH THE EMBASSY'S CONCERN THAT DEPARTMENT BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE IN EASING AMCIT FAMILYS' RETURN TO US, OUR STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE REPATRIATION ASSISTANCE UNIFORMLY REQUIRES THE RECIPIENTS' AGREEMENT TO REPAY USG FOR ALL FUNDS EXPENDED. WE HAVE NO SPECIAL OR EXCEPTIONAL AUTHORITIES AVAILABLE TO HANDLE THE INSTANT CASES.

6. EVEN FOR LARGE GROUP OF AMCITS EVACUATED FROM VIETNAM IN 1975, DEPARTMENT IS OBLIGATED TO ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN REPAYMENT FOR USG EXPENSES INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR TRANSPORTATION OUT OF VIETNAM. ROBINSON

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